

vacancy thus happening, who shall be entitled to receive the same pay as if resaid; and all acts and clauses of acts coming within the meaning and purview of this act are hereby repealed.

CHAPTER CLI.

An act to prevent the felling of timber in, or otherwise obstructing the run of Bear creek and its branches in the counties of Lenoir and Wayne.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That if any person or persons shall hereafter obstruct the run of Bear creek, or either fork of said creek, both of which are called Bear creek, or of Little Marsh run, which empties into the East branch of bear creek, by felling timber therein, or otherwise, or shall cause the same to be done, at any point above the bridge at Bear creek meeting house in the county of Lenoir, they shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to indictment in the County or Superior Court, in the counties of Lenoir or Wayne, as the case may be, and upon conviction shall be fined, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding fifty dollars for each offence: *Provided,* That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent the owners of land on said creeks, from building water fences thereon; and that this act shall not extend to cases where, in clearing and improving land, timber is felled into the run of said creeks, if such timber be removed within five days.

II. *Be it further enacted,* That if any slave or slaves shall be guilty of obstructing the run of said creeks without the order of his or her owner, they shall upon conviction before two magistrates of the county in which the offence is committed, be sentenced by said magistrates to receive not exceeding thirty nine lashes, and the owner of the slave or slaves so convicted, shall be liable for the costs of the prosecution.

CHAPTER CLII.

An act to alter the time for the sheriff to make his settlement with the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the county of Wilkes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall be lawful for the sheriff of said county to make his settlements at the first court that shall happen after the first day of January, in each and every year; instead of November term as heretofore, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAPTER CLIII.

An act to alter the time of electing and renewing the bonds of certain officers in the county of Mecklenburg.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That hereafter the justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the county of Mecklenburg, shall hold their elections for all county officers by them appointed, and renew all bonds of such officers according to the existing laws of the State, on the first court that shall happen in said county after the first day of August in each and every year, under the same rules and regulations as are now prescribed for the appointment, and taking the bonds of such officers.

II. *Be it further enacted,* That the bonds of such county officers as may be required to be renewed at May term next, shall be renewed for three